



SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive
P.O. Box 5469, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-5469
Phone (505) 827-2855 Fax (505) 827-2965
www.nmenv.state.nm.us



RYAN FLYNN
Secretary

BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

June 19, 2014

Ms. Sherry Burt-Kested, Manager
Environmental Services
Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company
P.O. Box 10
Bayard, New Mexico 88023

RE: Approval of the Groundhog No. 5 Stockpile Revised Work Plan for Additional Characterization and Controls for the Hanover and Whitewater Creeks Investigation Unit, Chino Administrative Order on Consent

Dear Ms. Burt-Kested:

The Ground Water Quality Bureau of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has reviewed the Golder Associates (Golder) revised submittal titled, *Groundhog No. 5 Stockpile Interim Remedial Action Work Plan for Additional Characterization and Controls, Hanover and Whitewater Creek Investigation Units* (Work Plan) dated June 3, 2014. The revised Work Plan was prepared by Golder on behalf of Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold, Chino Mines Company (Chino). A draft Work Plan was submitted by Chino on April 28, 2014 in response to a NMED letter dated March 12, 2014 in which NMED requested that Chino prepare a draft work plan to further characterize and monitor the Groundhog No. 5 Stockpile seepage water quality. The comments on the draft Work Plan listed in the NMED letter dated May 15, 2014 have been sufficiently addressed in the revised Work Plan and response to comment letter (also dated June 3, 2014), and NMED approves this final version of the Work Plan.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (575)-956-1550.

Sincerely,

Matt Schultz, Chino AOC Project Manager

Ms. Sherry Burt-Kested

6/19/14

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Mining Environmental Compliance Section
Ground Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
Silver City Field Office

cc: Petra Sanchez, USEPA (via email)
Kurt Vollbrecht, NMED (via email)
Brad Reid, NMED (via email)
Joseph Fox, NMED (via email)
Jerry Schoeppner, NMED (via email)
Chris Eustice, MMD (via email)
Holland Shepard, MMD (via email)
Ned Hall, Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold (via email)
Pam Pinson, Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company (via email)